

REMARKS:

At the time of the Final Office Action, claims 1-6, 8, 9, and 16-27 were pending. Claims 7, 10-15 were previously cancelled, claims 1-6, 8, 9 and 21-27 stand allowed, and claims 16-20 stand rejected. Pursuant to this Amendment, claims 16-20 have been cancelled. Claims 1-6, 8, 9, and 21-27 remain pending.

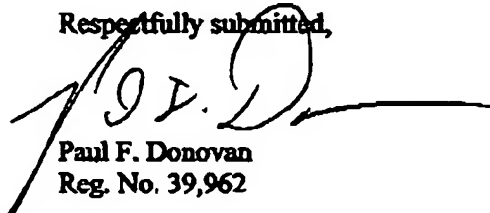
Allowance of claims 1-6, 8, 9 and 21-27 is noted with thanks.

Claims 16-20 stand rejected. Without agreeing with the Examiner that claims 16-20 do not recite allowable subject matter, in order to simply advance the prosecution of this application and allow the case to pass to issuance, claims 16-20 have been cancelled. Since no outstanding issues remain, favorable action is respectfully requested. In the event that there are any remaining issues to be addressed, in order to further expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number indicated below.

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Respectfully submitted,


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Cancelled
Claims
only
2/17/05